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**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

# Office Action Summary

**Application No.**

10/647,344

**Applicant(s)**

FROUIN ET AL.

**Examiner**

Alexander Q. Huerta

**Art Unit**

4115

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 26 August 2003.  
2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.  
3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are pending in the application.  
4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.  
5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.  
6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-22 is/are rejected.  
7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.  
8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.  
10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 26 August 2003 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).  
11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:  
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.  
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)  
2) ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)  
3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-8508)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date November 25, 2003  
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_  
5) ☐ Notice of Inventor's Patent Application  
6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102*

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

**Claims 1-13,15-20** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Stecyk et al. (United States Patent Application Publication 2002/0171763), herein referenced as Stecyk.

Regarding **claim 1**, Stecyk discloses an IR signal emitting remote control 20 of the present invention is shown. As depicted, the remote 20 includes many of the same function keys and buttons, for example, number keys, channel up and down, volume up and down, power, mute, PIP/POP, play, stop, FFWD, REW, adjust, and the like, as conventional universal remote controls, and tends to operate in a like manner, which reads on claimed “a plurality of manually operable members, each allowing at least one manual operation”, as disclosed in paragraph [0062] and further exhibited in figure 4.

Furthermore, Stecyk inherently discloses a command generator as evidenced by the fact that one of ordinary skill in the art would have recognized that the command generator would have been provided for the purpose of allowing the remote control to produce and transmit input commands to the control module. In addition, Stecyk further

discloses that the control system preferably includes a control module that is capable of interpreting an input command such as an event signal from a system remote, determining what action needs to take place, which reads on claimed “a command generator to issue commands able to select a program from the plurality of programs with in the network based on the operation of one or more manually operable members amongst the plurality of manually operable members”, as disclosed in paragraph [0010].

The remote 20 includes a control layer lever switch 21 to enable switching between layers to control a TV and other devices such as a cable box, a digital TV, a digital broadcast satellite tuner, a VCR, a DVD or an audio device. Furthermore, each device is driven by it own operating program, which controls how the device will function as a result from input commands from the remote, which therefore reads on claimed “characterized in that said command generator is arranged to issue the commands so that a particular manual operation of said one or more manually operable members is able to cause, without other manual operations of the plurality of manually operable members, a selection of the program from the one or more programs within one data stream and a selection of the data stream, from which the program is selected, from the plurality of different data streams”, as disclosed in paragraph [0062] and further exhibited in figure 4.

Regarding **claim 2**, Stecyk discloses everything as claimed above (see claim 2). In addition, Stecyk discloses that the UI enables the user to transparently control multiple input devices such as internal TV-type devices, AV devices, and other input devices over different protocols while operating on a single layer of a system remote

control, e.g., the TV layer of a universal TV remote. For example, operation of an IRC DVD player and a 1394 DVD player appears identical to the user. The UI also advantageously provides on-screen, real time visual recognition of the state of the system, device availability, operation or connection options, active connections, navigation, and the like. Stecyk further discloses that the user selects the "device" button on the remote, which causes the control system to display a device selection menu on the screen of the PDCU (Primary Display and Control Unit). The device selection menu preferably comprises a device window, a video window, an audio window, and, when a recording or other peer-to-peer connection is active, a connection window. The user next navigates through the device selection window and highlights a device icon, such as a VCR icon, to play a movie on the VCR, which reads on claimed "characterized in that the network comprises a plurality of sub networks, each network conveying one or more data streams and said command generator issues the commands so that the particular manual operation of said one or more manually operable members is further able to cause, without other manual operations of the plurality of manually operable members, a selection of a sub network, from which the program is selected, from the plurality of sub networks", as disclosed in paragraphs [0011] and [0012], respectively.

Regarding **claim 3**, Stecyk discloses everything as claimed above (see claim 2). In addition Stecyk discloses that the HTNS (Home Theater Network System) function keys and buttons include a device key 28, which may be used to display the device selection menu 52 of the UI 50 of the HTNS 10 on the screen 11 in the main video 13 of

the DTV 12 and navigate within the device window 60. The adjust key 29 may also be used to navigate through the device and audio windows 60 and 80, as well as the video and connection windows 70 and 90 to the extent these windows are navigable, which reads on claimed "characterized in that said command generator issues the commands so that the particular manual operation of said one or more manually operable members continuously causes a selection of a data stream from data streams conveyed with in the selected sub network", as disclosed in paragraph [0062] and further exhibited in figure 4.

Regarding **claim 4**, Stecyk discloses everything as claimed above (see claim 1). In addition, Stecyk discloses an IR signal emitting remote control 20 of the present invention is shown. As depicted, the remote 20 includes many of the same function keys and buttons, for example, number keys, channel up and down, volume up and down, power, mute, PIP/POP, play, stop, FFWD, REW, adjust, and the like, as conventional universal remote controls, and tends to operate in a like manner. The remote 20 includes a control layer lever switch 21 to enable switching between layers to control a TV and other devices such as a cable box, a digital TV, a digital broadcast satellite tuner, a VCR, a DVD or an audio device. Furthermore, Stecyk inherently discloses that the command generator would be located inside of the remote as evidenced by the fact that one of ordinary skill in the art would have recognized that having the command generator located inside the remote would have been provided for the purpose of protecting the command generator from sustaining damage when handled by the user, which therefore reads on claimed "characterized in that said one or more manually

operable members and said command generator are in a remote control device which is used for controlling an apparatus remote from the remote device", as disclosed in paragraph [0062].

Regarding **claim 5**, Stecyk discloses everything as claimed above (see claim 1). In addition, Stecyk discloses that the HTNS function keys and buttons include a device key 28, which may be used to display the device selection menu 52 of the UI 50 of the HTNS 10 on the screen 11 in the main video 13 of the DTV 12 and navigate within the device window 60. The adjust key 29 may also be used to navigate through the device and audio windows 60 and 80, as well as the video and connection windows 70 and 90 to the extent these windows are navigable, which reads on claimed "characterized in that said one or more manually operable members include an increment and/or a decrement for incrementing and/or decrementing a program number", as disclosed in paragraph [0062] and further exhibited in figure 4.

Regarding **claim 6**, Stecyk discloses everything as claimed above (see claim 1). In addition, Stecyk discloses that incorporated within the UI 50 is an intuitive, on-screen, head-up, real-time visual recognition system. The visual recognition system preferably visually communicates to the user U the current system state including active "in-use" connections, input device options, audio output options, video destinations and output options, peer-to-peer connections, and navigation selections as the user U operates the controls on the remote 20 or control panel 16 and displays or navigates through the device selection menu 52, which reads on claimed "means for obtaining information

regarding the network and information regarding types and contents of the programs", as disclosed in paragraph [0053].

Regarding **claim 7**, Stecyk discloses that the control system preferably includes a control module that is capable of interpreting an input command such as an event signal from a system remote, which reads on claimed "a receiver arranged to receive commands based on manual operations of a plurality of manually operable members each of which allows at least one manual operation", as disclosed in paragraph [0010].

In addition, Stecyk discloses that with the DM (Digital Module) 110 and UI (User Interface) 50, the user may advantageously operate all supported devices within the HTNS 10 with one remote control device on one layer, e.g., the TV layer of a universal remote control. The DM 110 and UI 50 will manage the details of communicating with external devices, whether IRC or 1394 devices, or a hybrid thereof, which reads on claimed "a control circuit arranged to select a program from the plurality of programs within the network based on the received commands", as disclosed in paragraph [0066].

The DM 110 translates the commands from the remote as appropriate and issues commands in the language appropriate for the device being controlled, giving common, intuitive behavior across devices from within the HTNS 10. As a result, the user can use the same remote buttons to operate 1394 and IRC devices, which reads on claimed "characterized in that said control circuit selects the program from the one or more programs within one data stream and further selects the data stream, from which the program is selected, from the plurality of different data streams in response to a specific manual operation of one or more manually operable members amongst the



plurality of manually operable members without other manual operations of the plurality of manually operable members”, as disclosed in paragraph [0066].

Regarding **claim 8**, Stecyk discloses everything as claimed above (see claim 7). In addition, Stecyk discloses the DM 110 translates the commands from the remote as appropriate and issues commands in the language appropriate for the device being controlled, giving common, intuitive behavior across devices from within the HTNS 10. As a result, the user can use the same remote buttons to operate 1394 and IRC devices. Stecyk further discloses that the HTNS (Home Theater Network System) function keys and buttons include a device key 28, which may be used to display the device selection menu 52 of the UI 50 of the HTNS 10 on the screen 11 in the main video 13 of the DTV 12 and navigate within the device window 60. The adjust key 29 may also be used to navigate through the device and audio windows 60 and 80, as well as the video and connection windows 70 and 90 to the extent these windows are navigable, which therefore reads on claimed “characterized in that said control circuitry continuously selects the program from the programs conveyed by the selected data stream in response to the specific manual operation of said one or more manually operable members”, as disclosed in paragraphs [0066], [0062], and further exhibited in figure 4.

Regarding **claim 9**, Stecyk discloses everything as claimed above (see claim 7). In addition, Stecyk discloses that the UI enables the user to transparently control multiple input devices such as internal TV-type devices, AV devices, and other input devices over different protocols while operating on a single layer of a system remote

control, e.g., the TV layer of a universal TV remote. For example, operation of an IRC DVD player and a 1394 DVD player appears identical to the user. The UI also advantageously provides on-screen, real time visual recognition of the state of the system, device availability, operation or connection options, active connections, navigation, and the like. Stecyk further discloses that the user selects the "device" button on the remote, which causes the control system to display a device selection menu on the screen of the PDCU (Primary Display and Control Unit). The device selection menu preferably comprises a device window, a video window, an audio window, and, when a recording or other peer-to-peer connection is active, a connection window. The user next navigates through the device selection window and highlights a device icon, such as a VCR icon, to play a movie on the VCR, which reads on claimed "characterized in that the network comprises a plurality of sub networks, each network conveying one or more data streams and said control circuit selects a sub network, from which the program is selected, from the plurality of sub networks in response to the specific manual operation of said one or more manually operable members without other manual operations of the plurality of manually operable members", as disclosed in paragraphs [0011] and [0012], respectively.

Regarding **claim 10**, Stecyk discloses everything as claimed above (see claim 9). In addition, Stecyk discloses that the HTNS (Home Theater Network System) function keys and buttons include a device key 28, which may be used to display the device selection menu 52 of the UI 50 of the HTNS 10 on the screen 11 in the main video 13 of the DTV 12 and navigate within the device window 60. The adjust key 29

may also be used to navigate through the device and audio windows 60 and 80, as well as the video and connection windows 70 and 90 to the extent these windows are navigable, which reads on claimed "characterized in that said control circuit continuously selects a data stream from the data streams within the selected sub network in response to the specific manual operation of said one or more manually operable members", as disclosed in paragraph [0062].

Regarding **claim 11**, Stecyk discloses everything as claimed above see (claim 7). In addition, Stecyk discloses an IR signal emitting remote control 20 of the present invention is shown. As depicted, the remote 20 includes many of the same function keys and buttons, for example, number keys, channel up and down, volume up and down, power, mute, PIP/POP, play, stop, FFWD, REW, adjust, and the like, as conventional universal remote controls, and tends to operate in a like manner. The remote 20 includes a control layer lever switch 21 to enable switching between layers to control a TV and other devices such as a cable box, a digital TV, a digital broadcast satellite tuner, a VCR, a DVD or an audio device, which reads on claimed "characterized in that said one or more manually operable members are located in a remote control device which is used for controlling the apparatus", as disclosed in paragraph [0062] and further exhibited in figure 4.

Regarding **claim 12**, Stecyk discloses everything as claimed above (see claim 11). In addition, Stecyk discloses that the HTNS function keys and buttons include a device key 28, which may be used to display the device selection menu 52 of the UI 50 of the HTNS 10 on the screen 11 in the main video 13 of the DTV 12 and navigate

within the device window 60. The adjust key 29 may also be used to navigate through the device and audio windows 60 and 80, as well as the video and connection windows 70 and 90 to the extent these windows are navigable, which reads on claimed "characterized in that said one or more manually operable members include an increment and/or a decrement key for incrementing and/or decrementing a program number", as disclosed in paragraph [0062] and further exhibited in figure 4.

Regarding **claim 13**, Stecyk discloses everything as claimed above (see claim 7). In addition, Stecyk discloses that incorporated within the UI 50 is an intuitive, on-screen, head-up, real-time visual recognition system. The visual recognition system preferably visually communicates to the user U the current system state including active "in-use" connections, input device options, audio output options, video destinations and output options, peer-to-peer connections, and navigation selections as the user U operates the controls on the remote 20 or control panel 16 and displays or navigates through the device selection menu 52, which reads on claimed " means for obtaining information regarding the network and information regarding types and contents of programs in the network, and wherein said control circuit selects the program in accordance with the information obtained by said obtaining means", as disclosed in paragraph [0053].

Regarding **claim 15**, Stecyk discloses everything as claimed above (see claim 7). In addition, Stecyk discloses that the TV control module 140 operates all of the TV hardware, i.e., the internal input devices 148, such as, for example, a digital tuner 142, a mpeg decoder 144, and an AC-3 decoder 146 and the like, which reads on claimed

"further comprising a decoder for decoding different programs encoded by different compression methods", as disclosed in paragraph [0084], and further exhibited in figure 5.

Regarding **claim 16**, Stecyk discloses an IR signal emitting remote control 20 of the present invention is shown. As depicted, the remote 20 includes many of the same function keys and buttons, for example, number keys, channel up and down, volume up and down, power, mute, PIP/POP, play, stop, FFWD, REW, adjust, and the like, as conventional universal remote controls, and tends to operate in a like manner, which reads on claimed "issuing commands based on manual operations of a plurality of manually operable members, each allowing at least one manual operation", as disclosed in paragraph [0062].

The remote 20 includes a control layer lever switch 21 to enable switching between layers to control a TV and other devices such as a cable box, a digital TV, a digital broadcast satellite tuner, a VCR, a DVD or an audio device. Furthermore, each device is driven by its own operating program, which controls how the device will function as a result from input commands from the remote, which therefore reads on claimed "selecting a program from the plurality of programs within the network based on the issued commands, characterized in that the program is selected in said selecting step from the one or more programs within one data stream and the data stream, from which the program is selected, is selected from the plurality of different data streams in said selecting step, in response to a specific manual operation of one or more manually operable members amongst the plurality of manually operable members without other

manual operations of the plurality of manually operable members", as disclosed in paragraph [0062] and further exhibited in figure 4.

Regarding **claim 17**, Stecyk discloses everything as claimed above (see claim 16). In addition, Stecyk discloses that the HTNS (Home Theater Network System) function keys and buttons include a device key 28, which may be used to display the device selection menu 52 of the UI 50 of the HTNS 10 on the screen 11 in the main video 13 of the DTV 12 and navigate within the device window 60. The adjust key 29 may also be used to navigate through the device and audio windows 60 and 80, as well as the video and connection windows 70 and 90 to the extent these windows are navigable, which therefore reads on claimed "characterized in that the program is continuously selected from the programs within the selected data streams in response to the specific manual operation of said one or more manually operable members in said selecting step", as disclosed in paragraph [0062] and further exhibited in figure 4.

Regarding **claim 18**, Stecyk discloses everything as claimed above (see claim 16). In addition, Stecyk discloses that the UI enables the user to transparently control multiple input devices such as internal TV-type devices, AV devices, and other input devices over different protocols while operating on a single layer of a system remote control, e.g., the TV layer of a universal TV remote. For example, operation of an IRC DVD player and a 1394 DVD player appears identical to the user. The UI also advantageously provides on-screen, real time visual recognition of the state of the system, device availability, operation or connection options, active connections, navigation, and the like. Stecyk further discloses that the user selects the "device"

button on the remote, which causes the control system to display a device selection menu on the screen of the PDCU (Primary Display and Control Unit). The device selection menu preferably comprises a device window, a video window, an audio window, and, when a recording or other peer-to-peer connection is active, a connection window. The user next navigates through the device selection window and highlights a device icon, such as a VCR icon, to play a movie on the VCR, which reads on claimed "characterized in that the network comprises a plurality of sub networks, each network conveying one or more data streams, wherein a sub network, from which the program is selected, is further selected from the plurality of sub networks in response to the specific operation of said one or more manually operable members without other manual operations of the plurality of said manually operable members in said selecting step", as disclosed in paragraphs [0011] and [0012].

Regarding **claim 19**, Stecyk discloses everything as claimed above (see claim 18). In addition, Stecyk discloses that the HTNS (Home Theater Network System) function keys and buttons include a device key 28, which may be used to display the device selection menu 52 of the UI 50 of the HTNS 10 on the screen 11 in the main video 13 of the DTV 12 and navigate within the device window 60. The adjust key 29 may also be used to navigate through the device and audio windows 60 and 80, as well as the video and connection windows 70 and 90 to the extent these windows are navigable, which reads on claimed "characterized in that a data stream within the selected sub network is continuously selected in response to the specific operation of

said one or more manually operable members in said selected step", as disclosed in paragraph [0062].

Regarding **claim 20**, Stecyk discloses everything as claimed above (see claim 16). In addition, Stecyk discloses that incorporated within the UI 50 is an intuitive, on-screen, head-up, real-time visual recognition system. The visual recognition system preferably visually communicates to the user U the current system state including active "in-use" connections, input device options, audio output options, video destinations and output options, peer-to-peer connections, and navigation selections as the user U operates the controls on the remote 20 or control panel 16 and displays or navigates through the device selection menu 52, which reads on claimed "further comprising a step of obtaining information regarding the network and information regarding types and contents of programs in the network, and wherein the program is selected in said selecting step in accordance with the information obtained in said obtaining step", as disclosed in paragraph [0053].

Regarding **claim 21**, Stecyk discloses an IR signal emitting remote control 20 of the present invention is shown. As depicted, the remote 20 includes many of the same function keys and buttons, for example, number keys, channel up and down, volume up and down, power, mute, PIP/POP, play, stop, FFWD, REW, adjust, and the like, as conventional universal remote controls, and tends to operate in a like manner, which reads on claimed "issue commands based on manual operations of a plurality of manually operable members, each allowing at least one manual operation", as disclosed in paragraph [0062].



The remote 20 includes a control layer lever switch 21 to enable switching between layers to control a TV and other devices such as a cable box, a digital TV, a digital broadcast satellite tuner, a VCR, a DVD or an audio device. Furthermore, each device is driven by its own operating program, which controls how the device will function as a result from input commands from the remote, which therefore reads on claimed "select a program from the plurality of programs within the network based on the issued commands, wherein the program is selected in said selecting step from the one or more programs within one data stream and the data stream, from which the program is selected, is selected from the plurality of different data stream in said selecting step, in response to a specific manual operation of one or more manually operable members amongst the plurality of manually operable members without other manual operations of the plurality of manually operable members", as disclosed in paragraph [0062].

Regarding **claim 22**, it is interpreted and thus rejected for the reasons set forth above in the reject of claim 21. Claim 21 describes a computer program product wherein the computer program comprises instruction sequences arranged to select a program from plurality of programs and claim 22 describes a data storage device for storing the computer program instructions. Thus, claim 22 is rejected.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the

invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

**Claim 14** is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Stecyk in view of Van Ryzin et al. (United States Patent 6,255,961), herein referenced as Van Ryzin.

Regarding **claim 14**, Stecyk discloses everything as claimed above (see claim 13). However, Stecyk fails to disclose "means for transferring at least part of the information obtained by said obtaining means to the remote control device", however the examiner maintains that it was well known in the art to provide a means for transferring at least part of the information obtained by said obtaining means to the remote control device, as taught by Van Ryzin.

In a similar field of endeavor, Van Ryzin discloses two-way communications between a remote control unit and one or more devices in an audio/visual environment. In addition, Van Ryzin discloses a remote control unit has a two-way communications link with one or more audio/visual devices in an audio/visual system, thereby providing for the bi-directional exchange of information between the remote control unit and the one or more audio/visual devices. The remote control unit may also have a two-way communications link with an information-providing device, such as a personal computer, in order that the remote control unit have access to information external to the audio/visual system, such as information on the Internet. The two-way communications link may be an infra-red communications link or a serial communications link, which reads on claimed "means for transferring at least part of the information obtained by

said obtaining means to the remote control device", as disclosed in column 2 lines 24-35.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Stecyk by specifically providing means for transferring at least part of the information obtained by said obtaining means to the remote control device, as taught by Van Ryzin, for the purpose of so that the remote control unit can have access to information outside of the audio/visual system.

### ***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Alexander Q. Huerta whose telephone number is 571-270-3582. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F(Alternate Fridays Off) 7:30-5:00 EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jefferey Harold can be reached on 571-272-7519. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Alexander Q Huerta  
Examiner  
Art Unit 4115

November 19, 2007  
/Ryan Yang/  
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2628